



PASTORAL CARE

Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact

Valerie Macdonald 455-1893

Iona MacLean 404-6108

MISSION MOMENTS: Gifts that make a difference

As we reflect on giving and receiving gifts this Christmas, let us give thanks for Presbyterians across Canada who are making a difference through their gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing!*

Together, we are supporting inner city missions, equipping congregations, encouraging children and youth, enabling congregational renewal and development, supporting theological education, maintaining international partnerships, sending mission staff – and so much more! Together, we are making mission and ministry happen in Canada and around the world. This Christmas Eve, we anticipate celebrating the greatest gift of all – Jesus Christ our Lord – whose example of giving inspires our own.

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP As we celebrate the birth of Christ, we pray that Christians in Israel and Palestine who gather to worship in joy and peace.

STEWARDSHIP A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great.

-Proverbs 18:16



We welcome younger children to our services! St. David's is a breastfeeding friendly facility.

The 3 R's at Saint David's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
This is a 'scent free' zone for the comfort of all.

We welcome all who are worshipping here today! If you are here for the first time, please sign the Guest Book at the main entrance. Greeting you this morning is Mac Mackay. Our reader for this morning is Nicole Watkins-Campbell.



1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax, N.S.

Interim Moderator: Iona MacLean

Clerk of Session: Valerie Macdonald

Organist: Nick Veltmeyer

WELCOME!

Service for the Lord's Day

December 24, 2017 Fourth Sunday of Advent

We gather on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Mi'kmaq bind us together as we strive for reconciliation.

Our Vision

A Worshipping, Sharing, Welcoming Community

Mailing Address: 36061 RPO Spring Garden Halifax, NS B3J 3S9

Organist: (Nick Veltmeyer) nick.veltmeier@gmail.com

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Web site: www.saintdavids.ca

GATHERING



Prelude: *Es Ist Ein Rose Entsprungen* - J.S. Bach

*The chimes and The Entry of the Scriptures

*Call to Worship: [from *Living Faith* 10.1 & *Luke* 1:49]

God has prepared for us things beyond our imagining.

Our hope is for a renewed world

and for fullness of life in the age to come.

The Mighty One has done great things for us.

Holy is God's name.

Hymn: *"Creator of the stars of night"*

Prayer of Approach: [based on Luke 1:47-52]

Holy is your name, O God.

**Your mercy is for those in awe of you
from generation to generation.**

You bring the powerful down and lift up the insecure.

You have done great things for us.

We give glory to you, O God;

our hearts pour out their praise to you, our Saviour. Amen.

Advent Liturgy- **The Candle of Love** -Johannah & Lesley Roberts

EQUIPPING

Prayer for Illumination: *O God of the weak, O God of the lowly,
O God of the righteous, O shield of your people,
speak now through your Word.*

First Reading: II Samuel 7:1-11, 16

One: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: Luke 1:47-55

*My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.*

**Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.**

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

*He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.*

He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

Hymn: *"In the bleak mid-winter"*

145

Community conversation

From the letters: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

One: The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn: *"The angel Gabriel from heaven"*

156

Sermon: **With Mary's Consent**

We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Doxology: *"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"*

830

Offertory Prayer

Announcements

Prayers of the People

SENDING

Hymn: *"Hail to the Lord's anointed"*

115

Benediction

Postlude: *Lo! He Comes* -N. Veltmeyer

Our worship continues with our service in the world.

THIS WEEK – (dates)

Today	11:00 am	Traditional Service – Sunday School
	4:00 pm	Christmas Eve Sunday School Service
	7:00 pm	Christmas Eve
Friday		David's Place -
Sunday	11:00 am	Traditional service –

From the Finance Committee: To date we have received \$20,082 for Presbyterians Sharing. We have exceeded our target of \$20,000! Congratulations.

If you are making a donation to Saint David's Church and you want your tax receipt dated in 2017, then your last opportunity is to place your donation through the letter slot in the north west passage door before 2 pm on Friday December 29th.

Members of the congregation who would like to prepare and deliver 20 brown bag lunches to the Out of the Cold Shelter can contact Nicole Watkins Campbell, 422-5878 to finalize arrangements. We are scheduled for the **first Saturday night of each month until the end of April.**

II Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.”

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Romans 16:25-27 Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Luke 1:26-38 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.